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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/705,545	11/10/2003	Chandramouli Srinivasan	030776/2933P	5118

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EXAMINER

PARDO, THUY N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2165

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/705,545

Applicant(s)

SRINIVASAN ET AL.

Examiner

Thuy N. Pardo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on July 14, 2006 in response to Examiner's Office Action has been reviewed.

2. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saeki, US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0039730.

As to claim 1, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising:

(a) storing query web interface data, including attributes for a database, in one more tables [storing query statement (SQL format) including attributes such as "AA", "CC" or "EE" in a physical table, see fig. 8; 0078; 0081];

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(b) retrieving the attributes from the table and displaying the attributes on a graphical user interface web page for user selection [candidate items which are contained in the displayed tables can be freely selected, 0087];

(c) dynamically generating a SQL query based on the attributes selected by the user [selection for items based on predetermined SQL, 0034-0035]; and

(d) displaying results of the SQL query to the user in graphical format [result data, see fig. 12-13], thereby enabling dynamic generation of custom queries [normalized query statements, fig. 8-14].

As to claim 15, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising: a client computer coupled to a network [user terminal, fig. 1]; a server coupled to the network in communication with the client computer [application server and database server, 0062; fig. 1]; and a query engine executing on the server [search engine, 0133], the query engine functioning to, generate and display GUI pages on the client computer for user selection of database attributes [0064], using the inputs provided by the user to automatically generate a SQL query to retrieve data from a database and display results of the query to the user in graphical format, thereby enabling dynamic generation of custom queries [S101-S110 of fig. 6, 1; ab].

As to claim 2, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches displaying the attributes as a functionally categorized listing of query attributes [0091-0094].

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As to claim 3, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches that the graphic format for displaying the results includes an X-axis and Y-axis [see fig. 8-9].

As to claim 4, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches that in order to generate the SQL query, requiring at least a first attribute to be plotted along the X-axis, a second attribute to be plotted along the Y-axis, wherein the first attribute comprises an X attributes and the second attribute comprises a Y attribute, and a process factor to apply to the Y attribute [fig. 8-9].

As to claim 5, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches allowing the user to select a series attribute, wherein the series attribute represents a query parameter that is used to group Y attribute values plotted [grouping A, B, C, fig. 7].

As to claim 6, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches allowing the user to select a filter, wherein the filter is a group of attributes that are used to restrict the scope of a query [fig. 7].

As to claim 7, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches allowing the user to form a query from a basic query page or a query customization page [fig. 8; 0035; 0091].

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As to claim 8, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches displaying on the basic query page rows of attributes, where each row includes a field for an attribute type, an attribute description, and process factors that are used to calculate Y attribute values [name, salary, premium, tax, to calculate Y attribute values, see fig. 12].

As to claim 9, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches allowing queries to be formed as single attribute queries or multiple attribute queries, wherein a single attribute query only includes an X attribute where a result of a query is displayed as a distribution, and wherein in a multiple attribute query, the user chooses X and Y attributes [fig. 12-13].

As to claim 10, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches storing the attribute data in at least two attribute tables [see fig. 12-13].

As to claim 11, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches generating the query by inserting into a SQL SELECT statement, table and column names for the selected attributes, an X attribute value set, and a series value set.

As to claim 12, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches retrieving the table and column names for the selected attributes from one or more of the attribute tables.

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As to claim 13, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches inserting the X attribute value set, and a series value set into a WHERE clause of the SQL statement.

As to claim 14, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches creating respective SQL SELECT statements joined together by a UNION statement for each of the X attribute values [fig. 5, 8-9, 13-15; 0009; 0081; 0150].

As to claim 16, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches that the query engine comprises a page builder, page builder tables, a query processor, a database layer, and presentation logic [0069; fig. 5-9].

As to claim 18, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches that the page builder displays the attributes on the GUI pages by accessing the attributes from the page builder tables [fig. 1-2; ab].

As to claim 20, Saeki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Saeki further teaches that the presentation logic implements a charting engine that displays the results of the executed SQL query to the user in tabular or chart format [calculation syntax definition, fig. 8].

As to claims 17 and 19, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

Response to Arguments

4. Examiner is entitled to give claim limitations their broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the specification.

Interpretation of Claims-Broadest Reasonable Interpretation.

During patent examination, the pending claims must be “given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification”. Applicant always has the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution and broad interpretation by the examiner reduces the possibility that the claim, once issued, will be interpreted more broadly than is justified. In re Prater, 162 USPQ 541, 550-51 (CCPA 1969).

Applicant argues that Saeki does not teach storing query web interface data, including attributes for a database, in one or more tables and retrieving the attributes from the table and displaying the attributes on a graphical user interface web page for user selection.

As to this point, Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner believes that these features were taught by Saeki. All retrieval data, data integration, data processing or result data have been stored in one or more tables such as physical tables, calculation tables, or display tables in a database, and each table has one or more attributes “A”, “B”, or “C” [see fig. 8-9, 12]. These tables are displayed and retrieved by users. SQL query is generated based on attributes selected from the user and [see fig. 8] and results of the SQL query is displayed to the users [see fig. 12].

Applicant argues that Saeki does not teach using inputs provided by the user to automatically generate a SQL query to retrieve data from a database.

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Examiner respectfully disagrees. See a retrieval SQL request from the user in fig. 7-8 and then the system will automatically generate SQL query and display the results to the user [see fig. 12, 13].

Applicant argues that Saeki fails to teach displaying the attributes as a functionally categorized listing of query attributes.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner believes Saeki teaches this feature. Saeki teaches a list items to be retrieved, designation of the grouping of items, the designation of a sorting order and the designation of output a retrieval result [0091]. The items are arranged in a hierarchical levels [see 0094].

5. Applicant's arguments filed on July 14, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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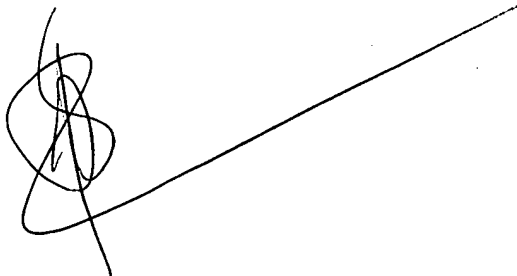
however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo whose telephone number is 571-272-4082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

September 29, 2006



THUY N. PARDO
PRIMARY EXAMINER